

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OIC-02 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10

IO-10 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05

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TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT:TIMING OF TNC MEETINGS

1. GARDNER PATTERSON SUGGESTED THAT THE JULY TNC SHOULD NOT BE DESCRIBED AS A MINISTERIAL MEETING, ALTHOUGH THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED. HE FELT THAT THE DESIGNATION "MINISTERIAL" SHOULD BE RESERVED FOR AN OCCASTION (A) WHEN EITHER THERE IS A SERIOUS DEADLOCK, (B) WHEN A MAJOR IMPETUS IS NEEDED, OR (C) WHERE THE FINAL DATE FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS IS GOING TO BE SET. THEIS LAST PURPOSE MIGHT CAUSE A MINISTERIAL TO BE CALLED IN THE FALL OF 1976, POSSIBLY ESTABLISHING A FINAL DATE OF JULY 1977 ON A TARIFF PACKAGE AND SELECTED NTB'S, IN PATTERSON'S VIEW. OTHER NTB'S WOULD BE SUBJECT TO CONTINUED NEGOTIAION, ALTHOUGH THIS WOULD BE A CONTINUING PROCESS BEYOND THE BOUNDS OF THIS ROUND.

2. PATTERSON SAW THE PURPOSE OF THE JULY TNC AS BEING PRIMARILY (A) A CHANCE FOR REPRESENTATIVES
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FROM CAPITALS TO HOLD BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS, (B) TO

ESTABLISH THE NEXT PHASE OF THE WORK PROGRAM, (C) TO CONSIDER ADDING OTHER NON-TARIFF MEASURES TO THE NEGOTIATIONS, AND (D) TO ALLOW AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE MAJOR COMBATANTS ON THE CEREALS QUESTION TO DETERMINE, IN LIGHT OF THE JUNE 23 GENEVA GRAINS MEETING AND THE JUNE 30 LONDON GRAINS MEETING, HOW GRAINS SHOULD BE HANDLED IN THE MTN.

3. PATTERSON FELT IT WAS TOO EARLY TO DETERMINE THE AGENDA OR TIMING FOR A FALL TNC MEETING, ALTHOUGH HE FELT THAT AS A GENERAL PROPOSITION A GATHERING OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM CAPITALS EVERY SIX MONTHS OR SO WAS USEFUL. MCNAMARA

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